

Year 3 Reading Comprehension: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation of reading comprehension can help you support your child's learning at home. Each subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring, whether your child is just learning to find simple information in a text or is ready for questions that involve more 'reading between the lines'.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

What Is Reading Comprehension?

How Does Teaching Reading Change at Junior Level?

As children move into the junior years, the focus on word reading begins to shift so that children work on developing a wider vocabulary. Your child's comprehension skills are described by the national curriculum as 'a primary element in reading'. The knowledge and skills that pupils need in order to comprehend are very similar at different ages.

Your child still needs to encounter a wide range of different types of reading including stories, poems, non-fiction and other writing. It is expected that children develop a greater perseverance in reading so that they are reading books of longer lengths.

How Do I Pick Books for My Junior Child?

From year 3 onwards, the importance grows for your child to be choosing books for themselves and learning which books they prefer. Visiting a library helps your child to select from a wider range of books and to be supported by professionals who can help choose books and advise your child which authors are similar to their favourites.

How Do I Help to Build Comprehension Skills with My Child?

Reading aloud and acting out poems and playscripts are an important part of building your child's comprehension skills and younger juniors still benefit from talking about their reading and performances and explaining what is happening. Developing the ability to explain understanding in words with someone you trust helps your child to write their understanding in comprehension activities later.

Readopoly

This colourful **Readopoly Board Game** is great for motivating your child to read and challenging them, especially during school holidays. It'll help them to be tempted to read more books and track their progress. There's even a certificate to reward your child for their efforts.

Thesaurus Wheel

Extending vocabulary is a key skill in improving your child's comprehension and writing. This vibrant and exciting **Synonyms Thesaurus Wheel** helps your child to expand their vocabulary by finding new synonyms to read, learn and use.

Predict Away

As children grow older and books are divided into chapters, it is really useful to encourage your child to predict what will happen next and tell the next step of the story. Children love it if you have a go too... how will the story end?

Step 1

Reading Skills Challenge Cards

During the lower junior years (years 3 and 4) children need to read texts of increasing length. However, some children need to build confidence with short, snappy extracts in order to focus on finding information and thinking about the text. These helpful challenge cards give questions based on popular themes. Read the card together and talk about the passage you've read. Share the questions and talk about each, speaking the answers aloud before writing them. As your child tries more cards, encourage them to read on their own and ultimately write on their own as they work through the pack.



60-Second Reads

This bumper pack of reading comprehension activities is suitable for children in years 3 and 4. Most children will be able to read the text in around a minute and then get stuck into comprehension questions that are based on the learning domains that they will be tested on when they sit SATs tests in year 6. Both the text and the questions are adjusted to fit the skills but to be accessible for lower junior children. Helpful answer sheets are included for parents, too.

Step 2



Step 3

Fossils Comprehension

This fossils-themed reading comprehension consists of a one-page article detailing important facts about fossils, along with ten questions based on the article. It helps to support your child with their science learning and reflects a typical non-fiction reading comprehension. If your child is a reluctant reader with fiction stories, a popular topic like fossils can be the ideal motivator.

Assessing Your Child's Reading

This pack is colourful and has a lovely selection of comprehensions that mimic those that schools give to assess your child's progress. You'll find a range of different types of writing, including poetry, as well as an answer set to guide you. The first time you use a test with your child, give plenty of support, help with reading the text and questions together and with the answers. Try using a highlighter on the questions and then in the text to show your child how to spot key words and find the right place to look for their answers.

Step 4

Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



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Go!



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Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Boost



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imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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ORIGINALS



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!